

09-149

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED

JUN 23 2009

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of)

CARIBBEAN CROSSINGS LTD.)

File No. SCL-T/C-20090506-0009

Application for Authority pursuant to)

Cable Landing License Act)

for transfer of control)

FILED/ACCEPTED

JUN 25 2009

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

**Comments regarding
Transfer of Control Application**

The Television Association of Programmers (TAP) Latin America hereby submits public comments on the application for a transfer of control of a Submarine Cable Landing License filed by Caribbean Crossings Ltd. on May 6, 2009.

TAP requests that the Commission consult with its interagency colleagues regarding the current legal situation in The Bahamas that harms the ability of U.S. companies to distribute authorized program-encrypted programming in that market. TAP member companies are being harmed by inadequate laws of The Bahamas and the practices taken by Cable Bahamas, one of the parties involved in this transfer of control application. In order to complete such consultation involving violations of U.S. treaty rights, TAP respectfully requests that this transfer of control application be reviewed under normal procedures, and not the streamlined process requested by Caribbean Crossings Ltd.

About TAP: The Television Association of Programmers (TAP) Latin America is an industry trade group representing more than 30 pay television channels in Latin America. TAP's

members are: Animal Planet, AXN, A&E, Boomerang, Canal Fox, Cartoon Network, Casa Club TV, Cinemax, CNN en Español, CNN International, Discovery Channel, Discovery Kids, Discovery Home & Health, Discovery Travel & Living, Discovery Civilization, Discovery Science, Discovery Turbo, Disney Channel Latin America, ESPN International, ESPN Dos, ESPN+, ESPN2, E! Entertainment, Speed, Fashion TV, FX, Fox Sports, HTV, HBO, HBO Plus, HBO Family, History Channel Latin America, I-Sat, Infinito, Jetix Channel Latin America, Max Prime, MGM Channel, MTV, MuchMusic, Mundo, National Geographic, Nickelodeon, People + Arts, Retro, Space, Sony, TCM, TNT, VH1, Universal Channel and Warner Channel. TAP's mission is to improve the regulatory and business climate for the pay television industry in Latin America by fostering open dialogue among its members, government regulatory agencies, and other industry institutions throughout the region.

The application pending before the Commission: Caribbean Crossings Ltd. ("Caribbean Crossings") pursuant to the Cable Landing License Act, requests authority to effectuate a transfer of control in its parent corporation, Cable Bahamas Ltd. ("Cable Bahamas") from Columbus Communications Ltd. ("Columbus") to the remainder of the shareholders of Cable Bahamas. Caribbean Crossings indicated that the grant of its application would serve the public interest and requested that the application should be granted on a streamlined basis.

To be clear, TAP does not raise any issue regarding the specific facts of the transfer of control proposals contained in Caribbean Crossing's application.¹ The corporate structure and

¹ TAP notes that there also is pending before the Commission a related transfer of control application by Trinity Communications Ltd., an affiliate of Caribbean Crossings with Section 214 operating authority (see fine number ITC-T/C-20090506-00204, filed May 6, 2009). The Commission's streamlining procedures apparently are not applicable to that application. Trinity's application presumably would be encompassed by the same interagency consultations as requested for Caribbean Crossings' application, since many of the pertinent issues are likely intertwined with both applications with respect to Cable Bahamas' activities.

various equity arrangements of the entities responsible for this license are not of our concern. We are not asking that the Commission revoke the current license.

Request that the FCC consult with its interagency colleagues on this issue: Rather, TAP requests that the FCC consult with its interagency colleagues, as contemplated by Executive Order 10539, regarding the legal deficiencies in Bahamian law that adversely affect the rights and interests of U.S. companies in the premium pay television sector to protect their copyrighted products and signals in that market. This is important because the actions not taken by the Government of The Bahamas to resolve an untenable situation are causing harm to U.S. companies. As the pending application for the transfer of control makes clear, the Government of the Bahamas itself is an investor in Cable Bahamas, one of the entities involved in this application for transfer of control.

With respect to submarine cable landing licenses, the Code of Federal Regulations provides: “The President may withhold or revoke such license when he shall be satisfied after due notice and hearing that such action will assist in securing rights for the landing or operation of cables in foreign countries, or in maintaining the rights or interests of the United States or of its citizens in foreign countries, or will promote the security of the United States, or may grant such license upon such terms as shall be necessary to assure just and reasonable rates and service in the operation and use of cables so licensed.” 47 CFR 35 (emphasis added).

TAP herein takes a broad view of the phrase “in maintaining the rights or interests of the United States or of its citizens in foreign countries.” The “rights and interests” of its member companies in protecting their respective copyrighted programming in The Bahamas is severely undermined by actions taken, and not taken, by both the Government of the Bahamas and Cable Bahamas. Other U.S. laws -- such as the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act -- similarly

require the President to evaluate whether intellectual property rights (here, copyright) of U.S. entities are protected in foreign countries.

Summary of overbroad compulsory license problem in The Bahamas: TAP provides below a summary of the both the legal and practical problem our members faces in The Bahamas.

On January 5, 2000, the Government of The Bahamas implemented its 1998 Copyright Act. The law authorized a new compulsory license for the retransmission of television programming by licensed cable operators. Compulsory licenses for spill-over over-the-air broadcast channels are common, and legal, practice internationally. This new compulsory license, however, expanded the scope beyond the internationally accepted limits of such a license (e.g., authorizing retransmission of free, over-the-air broadcast networks by cable operators) to the unprecedented step of permitting retransmission of any copyrighted work transmitted over its territory, including the encrypted signals of U.S. basic cable and pay TV services. Such a compulsory license far exceeded the bounds permitted under the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, to which both The Bahamas and the United States are signatories, as well as violates The Bahamas' obligations to provide "adequate and effective protection" for U.S. copyright, as required by the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA), a U.S. preferential trade program. In fact, the implementation by the Bahamas of its compulsory license for encrypted pay television satellite signals is unprecedented anywhere in the world, and could have far-reaching, adverse repercussions for the exportation of legitimate U.S. audiovisual entertainment. The violation is also extensive, as is obvious from Cable Bahamas'

program listing², which includes a very long list of U.S. pay television channels obtained through compulsory licensing without authorization of the owners of these programming rights.

The CBERA requires that beneficiary country status be denied if such country has nationalized, expropriated or otherwise seized ownership or control of property owned by a U.S. citizen (19 U.S.C. § 2702(b)(2)(A)) or has taken steps to repudiate or nullify any intellectual property (19 U.S.C. § 2702(b)(2)(B)). Furthermore, if a government-owned entity broadcasts U.S. copyrighted material, including films or television material, belonging to United States copyright owners without their consent (19 U.S.C. § 2702(b)(5)), the President shall not designate that country a CBERA beneficiary. In addition, beneficiary countries must meet the two discretionary IPR criterion of the CBERA, which include taking into account: first, the extent to which such country provides under its law adequate and effective means for foreign nationals to secure, exercise, and enforce exclusive rights in intellectual property, including patent, trademark, and copyright rights; and second, the extent to which such country prohibits its nationals from engaging in the broadcast of copyrighted materials, including films or television material, belonging to United States copyright owners without their express consent (19 § U.S.C. 2702(c)(9) and (10)).

The U.S. government has been involved with the Bahamian government since 2000 in efforts to resolve this troubling issue. The Parliament adopted legislative amendments in 2004 but these were never signed by the Prime Minister and as a result, have never been implemented. Meanwhile, the local market for legitimate premium pay television programming has changed and grown in recent years, and much English language programming is available. Indeed, members of TAP have expended millions of dollars to develop English language Caribbean feeds to service the

² See Exhibit I.

Caribbean market, including The Bahamas.

Unfortunately, the compulsory license continues to be used to allow Bahamian cable operators to downlink, dc-encrypt, retransmit and sell premium pay television networks from the U.S. without authorization, thereby completely undermining U.S. programmers ability to market their legitimate Caribbean feeds in The Bahamas.

In 2007, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) forthrightly labeled The Bahamas' compulsory licensing scheme as "piracy."³ Recently, USTR indicated in its 2009 Special 301 Report that it will examine The Bahamas in the context of that country's compliance with its CBERA IPR obligations. Specifically:

As part of its bi-annual review of the operation of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, USTR will review the IPR practices of beneficiaries, including The Bahamas, to assess compliance with the preference program's eligibility criteria, which include the extent to which a country prohibits its nationals from broadcasting U.S. copyrighted materials without permission.⁴

For the above reasons, TAP believes that the Commission should consult with its interagency colleagues regarding the actions taken by the Government of The Bahamas and Cable Bahamas regarding their protection of rights and interests (in this case, copyright rights) of U.S. entities.

In addition, TAP calls attention to the claim at pages 5-6 of Caribbean Crossings' application that The Bahamas . . . has **recently** submitted its application for [WTO] membership." (Emphasis added.) WTO membership would require Bahamian adherence to the WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of International Property Rights (TRIPS), which would clearly prohibit The Bahamas' compulsory licensing of pay television signals. In reality, according

³ USTR, Seventh Report to Congress on the Operation of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (Dec. 31, 2007), at pages 23-24.

⁴ USTR 2009 Special 301 Report, April 30, 2009, at pages 3-4, posted at <http://www.ustr.gov/sites/default/files/Full%20Version%20of%20the%202009%20SPECIAL%20301%20REPORT.pdf>.

to the most recent documents on file at the WTO, while The Bahamas submitted a one-page application for WTO membership in 2001, no steps have been taken since that time by The Bahamas Government to advance that application.⁵

Conclusion: TAP believes that the continued inaction by the Government of the Bahamas to resolve an almost decade-long problem involving an onerous compulsory license applied to pay television programming represents that government's egregious failure to provide adequate and effective copyright protection to U.S. copyright owners, as required by the Berne Convention and CBERA.

Nations in the Caribbean region generate an estimated \$250-\$270 million in programming revenue for U.S.-based cable television companies each year. This Bahamian legislation, in the form of this overbroad compulsory license, already results in major losses to pay television companies, although TAP is not able to calculate an exact estimate. Coupled with a possible legislative "domino effect" already threatened in other Caribbean countries through adopting similar objectionable compulsory licenses (as threatened in the cases of St. Kitts and Nevis, Barbados and Jamaica, for example), the potential market disruption could threaten the entire legitimate industry's ability to complete programming carriage deals throughout the region.

TAP respectfully requests that this transfer of control application be reviewed under normal procedures, and not a streamlined process requested by Caribbean Crossings, so that the Commission consult with its interagency colleagues regarding the current legal situation in The Bahamas that harms the ability of U.S. companies to distribute legitimate program-encrypted

⁵ Please refer to Exhibit 2, which contains Commonwealth of The Bahamas Request for Accession Pursuant to Article XII (May 10, 2001), Technical Note on the Accession Process (May 18, 2007), and Summary Table of WTO Accessions (April, 2009).

programming in that market and to review the role that investors involved in the pending application play in this situation.

Respectfully submitted,

TELEVISION ASSOCIATION OF
PROGRAMMERS-LATIN AMERICA (TAP)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Spencer", written in a cursive style.

By:

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June 25th, 2009

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8. CBS Montreal
9. CBS-E (NFL) Miami
10. NBC-E (NFL) Miami
11. 25K, TV-13 Bahamas
12. Cable 12, Bahamas
13. PBS (PBS2) New York
14. FOX
15. Am. & Entertainment (ALE)
16. E! Entertainment
17. Lifetime
18. Oxygen
19. MTV
20. USA Network
21. Sci-Fi
22. News & Canadian Television (NCTV)
23. Parliamentary Channel
24. FoxTV
25. The Learning Channel (TLC)
26. Discovery Channel
27. National Geographic
28. Nickelodeon
29. Cartoon Network
30. Boomerang
31. Speed
32. ESPN International
33. CNN Headline News
34. MSNBC
35. Q&A
36. Fox News Network
37. BBC World, London
38. The Weather Channel
39. Court TV
40. Bloomberg
41. News & Canadian Television (NCTV)
42. Parliamentary Channel
43. TBS (Atlanta)
44. TLA (Los Angeles)
45. WPIX (New York)
46. WABC (New York)
47. WGN (Chicago)
48. MTV
49. Tempo
50. MTV
51. E! Entertainment
52. New International Network (NIN)
53. MTV (Pacific Channel)
54. MTV (South Day Afternoon)
55. Family Broadcasting Network (FBN)
56. Triple Network
57. Caribbean

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Cable Bahamas' SuperBunk package is an exciting and essential part of Oceanus 125. You will find the complete SuperBunk line-up included in this guide to serve as a reference point for other rooms in the household that may not yet have a SuperBunk set-up. See you there!

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WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/BHS/1

10 May 2001

(01-2404)

Original: English

ACCESSION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

Request for Accession Pursuant to Article XII

The Director-General has received the following communication from the Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas with the request that it be included on the agenda of the next General Council.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas presents its compliments to the Director of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and has the honour to advise of its decision to apply for membership in the WTO under Article XII of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the WTO.

As a small island economy, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas is mindful of the necessity of full participation in the international trading system and, to that end, looks forward to becoming a member of the WTO in accordance with the procedures established for accession. I should therefore like you to place our application before the General Council at its next meeting.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas remains at your disposal and at the disposal of the governments of all WTO Members for any further information that may be required with regard to its application for accession.

WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

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ACCESSIONS: ONGOING ACCESSIONS

Summary Table of Ongoing Accessions

(Updated April 2009)



	Application	Working Party Established	Memorandum	First/Latest* Working Party Meeting	Number of Working Party Meetings *	Goods Offer		Services Offer		Draft Working Party Report **
						Initial	latest*	initial	latest*	
Afghanistan	Nov 2004D	ec 2004	Apr 2009							
Algeria	Jun 1987	Jun 1987	Jul 1996	Apr 1998/Jan 2008	10	Feb 2002	Nov 2007	Mar 2002	Nov 2007	Jun 2006
Andorra	Jul 1997	Oct 1997	Mar 1999	Oct 1999	1	Sep 1999		Sep 1999		
Azerbaijan	Jun 1997	Jul 1997	Apr 1999	Jun 2002/Dec 2008	6	May 2005	Feb 2008	May 2005	Mar 2007	Dec 2008 (FS)
Bahamas	May 2001	Jul 2001								
Belarus	Sep 1993	Oct 1993	Jan 1996	Jun 1997/May 2005	7	Mar 1998	May 2006	Feb 2000	Sep 2006	Jun 2007 (FS)
Bhutan	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Feb 2003	Nov 2004/Jan 2008	4	Aug 2005	Nov 2007	Aug 2005	Nov 2007	Dec 2007
Bosnia and Herzegovina	May 1999	Jul 1999	Oct 2002	Nov 2003/Mars 2009	6	Oct 2004	Feb 2007	Oct 2004	Feb 2007	Feb 2009
Comoros	Feb 2007	Oct 2007								
Equatorial Guinea	Feb 2007	Feb 2008								
Ethiopia	Jan 2003	Feb 2003	Jan 2007	May 2008	1					
Iran	Jul 1996	May 2005								
Iraq	Sep 2004	Dec 2004	Sep 2005	May 2007/April 2008	2					
Kazakhstan	Jan 1996	Feb 1996	Sep 1996	Mar 1997/Jul 2008	10	Jun 1997	May 2004	Sep 1997	Jun 2004	Jun 2008
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Jul 1997	Feb 1998	Mar 2001	Oct 2004/Jul 2008	4	Nov 2006	Jun 2008	Oct 2007	Jun 2008	Jun 2008 (FS)
Lebanese Republic	Jan 1999	Apr 1999	Jun 2001	Oct 2002/Feb 2009	6	Nov 2003	Jun 2004	Nov 2003	Jun 2004	Oct 2008
Liberia, Republic of	Jun 2007	Dec 2007								
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Jun 2004	Jul 2004								
Montenegro	Dec 2004	Feb 2005	Mar 2005	Oct 2005/Nov 2008	7	Draft Schedule Dec 2008		Draft Schedule Dec 2008		Jan 2009
Russian Federation	Jun 1993	Jun 1993	Mar 1994	Jul 1995/Mar 2006	30	Feb 1998	Feb 2001	Oct 1999	Jun 2002	Oct 2004
Samoa	Apr 1998	Jul 1998	Feb 2000	Mar 2002	1	Aug 2001		Aug 2001	Feb 2006	Nov 2006
Sao Tome and Principe	Jan 2005	May 2005								
Serbia	Dec 2004	Feb 2005	Mar 2005	Oct 2005/Dec 2008	6	Apr 2006	Nov 2008	Oct 2006	Nov 2008	Nov 2008
Seychelles	May 1995	Jul 1995	Aug 1996	Feb 1997	1	Jun 1997		May 1997		Jun 1997

<u>Sudan</u>	Oct 1994	Oct 1994	Jan 1999	Jul 2003/Mar 2004	2	Jul 2004	Oct 2006	Jun 2004	Oct 2006	Sep 2004 (FS)
<u>Tajikistan</u>	May 2001	Jul 2001	Feb 2003	Mar 2004/Oct 2006	3	Feb 2004	Mar 2009	Feb 2004	Mar 2009	May 2006 (FS)
<u>Uzbekistan</u>	Dec 1994	Dec 1994	Oct 1998	Jul 2002/Oct 2005	3	Sep 2005		Sep 2005		
<u>Vanuatu</u>	Jul 1995	Jul 1995	Nov 1995	Jul 1996/Oct 1999	2	Nov 1997	Nov 1999	Nov 1997	Nov 1999	Accession Package Oct 2001
<u>Yemen</u>	Apr 2000	Jul 2000	Nov 2002	Nov 2004/Oct 2008	5	Sep 2005	Aug 2008	Aug 2005	Aug 2008	Aug 2008

Note.* As of the date of this document. [back to text](#)** Most recent Factual Summary (FS), draft Working Party Report or Elements of draft Working Party Report. [back to text](#)

contact us : World Trade Organization, rue de Lausanne 154, CH-1211 Geneva 21, Switzerland

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

WT/ACC/11/Rev.7
18 May 2007

(07-2042)

TECHNICAL NOTE ON THE ACCESSION PROCESS

Note by the Secretariat: State of Play and Information on Current Accessions

Revision

This paper contains summary information on the state of current applications for accession and accession Working Parties. Summary information on completed accessions can be found in the latest revision of document WT/ACC/10.

This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and without prejudice to the positions of Members and to their rights and obligations under the WTO

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- Recently Completed Accessions	1
- Ongoing Accessions	1
SUMMARY TABLE OF ONGOING A CCESSIONS	2
STATUS OF ACCESSION WORKING PARTIES	4

INTRODUCTION

This document contains information on the status of ongoing WTO accessions, including a brief description of the current state of play for each accession¹. A comprehensive technical note on the accession process, containing information on completed accessions, is presented in the latest revision of document WT/ACC/10.

- Recently Completed Accessions

The General Council approved Viet Nam's accession package on 7 November 2006. Viet Nam became the WTO's 150th member on 11 January 2007. The accession package of the Kingdom of Tonga was adopted at the Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference (15 December 2006). Tonga will become a Member of the WTO 30 days after notifying the WTO of the domestic ratification of the accession package.

- Ongoing Accessions

As of the date of this document, the following governments are in the process of accession to the WTO (in alphabetical order):

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 15. Lebanese Republic |
| 2. Algeria | 16. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya |
| 3. Andorra | 17. Montenegro |
| 4. Azerbaijan | 18. Russian Federation |
| 5. Bahamas | 19. Samoa |
| 6. Belarus | 20. Sao Tomé and Príncipe |
| 7. Bhutan | 21. Serbia |
| 8. Bosnia and Herzegovina | 22. Seychelles |
| 9. Cape Verde | 23. Sudan |
| 10. Ethiopia | 24. Tajikistan |
| 11. Iran | 25. Ukraine |
| 12. Iraq | 26. Uzbekistan |
| 13. Kazakhstan | 27. Vanuatu* |
| 14. Lao People's Democratic Republic | 28. Yemen |

* The final meeting of the Working Party on the Accession of Vanuatu was held on 29 October 2001.

- 23 Applicants have submitted a Memorandum on the Foreign Trade Regime – a key document containing the factual information needed for activating the work of the Working Party;
- 21 Working Parties have held their first meeting;
- 21 Applicants have tabled their offers on goods and/or services to initiate bilateral market access negotiations with interested Members; and
- A draft Working Party Report or Elements of a draft Report (a document that lays down the basis for the draft Working Party Report) has been prepared for 10 Applicants.

A Working Party has not yet been established to examine a request for accession from Syria (documents WT/ACC/SYR/1, 2 and 3), Equatorial Guinea (document WT/ACC/GNQ/1) and the Comoros (document WT/ACC/COM/1).

¹ Up-to-date information on the state of play in ongoing WTO accessions is available at www.wto.org.

SUMMARY TABLE OF ONGOING ACCESSIONS²

Country	Application	Working Party Established	Memorandum	First/Latest* Working Party Meeting	Number of Working Party Meetings	Goods Offer		Services Offer		Draft Working Party Report**
						initial	latest*	initial	latest*	
<u>Afghanistan</u>	Nov 2004	Dec 2004								
<u>Algeria</u>	Jun 1987	Jun 1987	Jul 1996	Apr 1998/ Oct 2005	9	Feb 2002	Jan 2005	Mar 2002	Jan 2005	Jun 2006
<u>Andorra</u>	Jul 1997	Oct 1997	Mar 1999	Oct 1999	1	Sep 1999		Sep 1999		
<u>Azerbaijan</u>	Jun 1997	Jul 1997	Apr 1999	Jun 2002/ Mar 2006	4	May 2005	Apr 2007	May 2005	Mar 2007	
<u>Bahamas</u>	May 2001	Jul 2001								
<u>Belarus</u>	Sep 1993	Oct 1993	Jan 1996	Jun 1997/ May 2005	7	Mar 1998	May 2006	Feb 2000	Sep 2006	Apr 2005 (FS)
<u>Bhutan</u>	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Feb 2003	Nov 2004/ Oct 2006	3	Aug 2005	Apr 2007	Aug 2005	Apr 2007	Sep 2006
<u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>	May 1999	Jul 1999	Oct 2002	Nov 2003/ Mar 2007	3	Oct 2004	Jun 2005	Oct 2004	Jun 2005	Feb 2007 (FS)
<u>Cape Verde</u>	Nov 1999	Jul 2000	Jul 2003	Mar 2004/ Jul 2005	3	Nov 2004	Nov 2005	Nov 2004	Nov 2006	Nov 2005
<u>Ethiopia</u>	Jan 2003	Feb 2003	Jan 2007							
<u>Iran</u>	Jul 1996	May 2005								
<u>Iraq</u>	Sep 2004	Dec 2004	Sep 2005							
<u>Kazakhstan</u>	Jan 1996	Feb 1996	Sep 1996	Mar 1997/ Nov 2006	9	Jun 1997	May 2004	Sep 1997	Jun 2004	Sep 2006
<u>Lao People's Democratic Republic</u>	Jul 1997	Feb 1998	Mar 2001	Oct 2004/ Nov 2006	2	Nov 2006				
<u>Lebanese Republic</u>	Jan 1999	Apr 1999	Jun 2001	Oct 2002/ May 2007	5	Nov 2003	Jun 2004	Nov 2003	Jun 2004	Mar 2007

² In alphabetical order.

Country	Application	Working Party Established	Memorandum	First/Latest* Working Party Meeting	Number of Working Party Meetings	Goods Offer		Services Offer		Draft Working Party Report**
						initial	latest*	initial	latest*	
<u>Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</u>	Jun 2004	Jul 2004								
<u>Montenegro</u>	Dec 2004	Feb 2005	Mar 2005	Oct 2005/ Feb 2007	3	Jun 2006	Feb 2007	Jul 2005	Jun 2006	
<u>Russian Federation</u>	Jun 1993	Jun 1993	Mar 1994	Jul 1995/ Mar 2006	30	Feb 1998	Feb 2001	Oct 1999	Jun 2002	Oct 2004
<u>Samoa</u>	Apr 1998	Jul 1998	Feb 2000	Mar 2002	1	Aug 2001		Aug 2001	Feb 2006	Nov 2006
<u>Sao Tomé and Príncipe</u>	Jan 2005	May 2005								
<u>Serbia</u>	Dec 2004	Feb 2005	Mar 2005	Oct 2005/ Dec 2006	3	Apr 2006		Oct 2006		
<u>Seychelles</u>	May 1995	Jul 1995	Aug 1996	Feb 1997	1	Jun 1997		May 1997		Jun 1997
<u>Sudan</u>	Oct 1994	Oct 1994	Jan 1999	Jul 2003/ Mar 2004	2	Jul 2004	Oct 2006	Jun 2004	Oct 2006	Sep 2004 (FS)
<u>Tajikistan</u>	May 2001	Jul 2001	Feb 2003	Mar 2004/ Oct 2006	3	Feb 2004	Jun 2006	Feb 2004	Jun 2006	May 2006 (FS)
<u>Ukraine</u>	Nov 1993	Dec 1993	Jul 1994	Feb 1995/ Jun 2006	16	May 1999	May 2002	Feb 1997	Jun 2004	Apr 2007
<u>Uzbekistan</u>	Dec 1994	Dec 1994	Oct 1998	Jul 2002/ Oct 2005	3	Sep 2005		Sep 2005		
<u>Vanuatu</u>	Jul 1995	Jul 1995	Nov 1995	Jul 1996/ Oct 1999	2	Nov 1997	Nov 1999	Nov 1997	Nov 1999	Accession Package Oct 2001
<u>Yemen</u>	Apr 2000	Jul 2000	Nov 2002	Nov 2004/ Jul 2006	3	Sep 2005	Jun 2006	Aug 2005	Jun 2006	Jun 2006 (FS)

* As of the date of this document.

** Most recent Factual Summary (FS), draft Working Party Report or Elements of draft Working Party Report.

BAHAMAS

A Working Party to examine the application of the Bahamas was established at the General Council meeting on 18 July 2001. The Bahamas has not yet submitted a Memorandum on the Foreign Trade Regime. The Working Party has not yet met.

Application Received	10 May 2001	WT/ACC/BHS/1
Working Party Established	18 July 2001	WT/GC/M/66
Chairperson: to be designated		
Memorandum		
Questions and Replies		
Meetings of the Working Party		
Other Documentation		
(a) Additional Questions & Replies		
(b) Agriculture (WT/ACC/4)		
(c) Services (WT/ACC/5)		
(d) SPS/TBT (WT/ACC/8)		
(e) TRIPS (WT/ACC/9)		
(f) Legislative Action Plan		
Market Access Negotiations		
Goods Offer		
Services Offer		
Factual Summary		
Draft Working Party Report		